



Bravo company troops train up on urban movement tactics

Story and photos

By Sgt. Brandon Aird

173d Airborne Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs

SAN GIORGIO, Italy — Paratroopers from Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 503d Infantry (Airborne) traveled up to a beautiful mountain village near the town of San Giorgio, Italy to train on urban movement tactics Aug. 8-10. It was the first time the 173d Airborne Brigade Combat Team used the Italian facility.

More than 70 percent of the Soldiers in the company are new to the brigade and many are new to the Army. This training will help discipline new Soldiers and enhance the skills of other Soldiers.

The training began with each platoon walking 15 to 20 km through the wooded country side in full battle rattle – weapons at the ready – with Italian Soldiers from 6th Alpini Regiment to do an area reconnaissance.

“Just imagine no trees and a lot more heat (what Iraq or Afghanistan would be like),” 2nd Lt. Roy Emerson, a platoon leader with 17 years of enlisted service, told his paratroopers.

The farm roads the paratroopers marched along were dotted with corn fields and live stock.

“The Italian guides didn’t speak English and it gave these new paratroopers the experience of dealing with an international force,” said Capt. Tom Bostick, Bravo Company commander.

Bostick’s credentials include four deployments to Afghanistan and one Iraq deployment.

Both Afghanistan and Iraq have built up areas, Bostick explained, and the fundamentals for urban movement are the same for almost any urban environment.

Experienced B company Soldiers like Sgt. James Walker taught the new Soldiers exactly where to go when entering a room, and what

steps to take to get there.

The NCOs had a lot of work to do get the paratroopers ready. Clearing a room isn’t as easy as walking in room and yelling ‘all clear,’ according to Bostick.

Before Soldiers could even start to work, they had to practice ‘tape drills.’ This is where engineer tape is laid on the ground in a square, with an empty section that represents a door.

This empty section can be moved to indicate center-fed or left/right-fed door. This gives the Soldiers a blue print of the room on the ground, from which Soldiers can practice from outside an actual building. First, the Soldiers walk through tape drills and as they get better – they enter the building faster.

“[Tape drills] Out in the open give us the opportunity to see everything the Soldiers do,” said Walker. “It takes a while for the Soldiers to learn each position.”

The positions Walker refers to is where the Soldier is in the line, referred to as the ‘stack.’ Every Soldier has to learn each position; and there are four positions.

From moving to the door right down to where the Soldier’s weapon, eyes, feet, and body direction are when they enter the door and into the room, are all predetermined by their stack position.

Soldiers enter a room in a line (or stack) one behind another, usually four-men deep.

The last Soldier in the stack moves up and opens the door. The next three Soldiers rush in to predetermined points, with each Soldier going the opposite way of the Soldier in front of him.

“I hate to put it this way,” said Walker, “but when you enter that

room all you are is a piece of meat nothing matters except clearing that room. Once it’s secured, then you worry about your buddy.”

“The Soldier doesn’t just need to know each stack-man position,” said Emerson, “it has to be instilled with him so he can do it without thinking or hesitating.”

Walker had his Soldiers clear the same room over and over again. Each time he moved items (boxes, etc.) around while also moving a target that represented an enemy to a different location in the room. “I don’t care how many times my guys do it, they’re going to keep doing it until they get right.”

After working all day on urban procedures, the Soldiers were allowed to go into the town for dinner.

“It gives Soldiers a chance to experience the culture,” Bostick said. “It’s beautiful out here. You can’t experience this at Fort Bragg.”



Soldiers from Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 503d Infantry (Airborne), 173d Airborne Brigade Combat Team, practice entering a room in a stack during urban movement training Aug. 8 at an Italian military facility.



Soldiers practice tape drills during urban movement training at an Italian military facility near San Giorgio, Italy Aug. 8.

Morning road closures take effect Aug. 28

Office of the Provost Marshal
Press Release

Beginning Aug. 28, Caserma Ederle will begin enforcing a protected running route intended to safeguard Soldiers and civilians conducting PT while, at the same time, not eliminating the work force’s ability to complete tasks. The map at left graphically represents gate closures and traffic deviations between the hours of 6:30-7:30 a.m. on normal work days.

To facilitate traffic flow, Gate 4

(Casermette gate) will continue to open at 5:15 a.m. and Gate 2 (Chapel gate) will open at 5:30 a.m.

However, both of these gates will close when reveille sounds at 6:30 a.m. Please understand no vehicles will be allowed to enter either of these two gates from that time until 7:30 a.m., but will still be open to pedestrian traffic.

Additional MPs will be stationed at Gate 1 (Aldo Mora gate) in order to support the increased traffic flow.

Thank you for your support in this effort.

Celebrate Women's Equality Day Aug. 25

From Maj. Gen. Frank G. Helmick
SETAF commander

On Aug. 26, 1920, the 19th Amendment to the Constitution was ratified, guaranteeing American women the right to vote. In 1971, the U.S. Congress designated Aug. 26 as Women's Equality Day commemorating the passage of the 19th Amendment and celebrating women's continuing efforts toward equality. The amendment was a culmination of a long struggle reaching back to the founding of our country, and it was furthered by the 1848 women's rights convention in Seneca Falls, New York.

We can be proud of the legacy of the Women's Rights Movement led by women such as Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, and Lucretia Mott who stood up against injustice and persevered until their efforts secured women the right to vote. By celebrating Women's Equality Day, we commemorate the adoption of this amendment and honor the visionary women who fought so tirelessly.

Since the adoption of the 19th Amendment, women have continued to make great contributions to our Nation. Women today are leaders in our military, medicine, law, journalism, business, government, and many other professions. They are doctors and mothers, teachers and lawyers, homemakers, Army officers and non-commissioned officers, pilots, artists and Department of the Army civilians. Women are serving with distinction in our Armed Forces around the world and defending our freedom.

I encourage the entire SETAF community to participate in the observance of Women's Equality Day. The hard work of American women is essential to the strength and vitality of our country and we are a better Army and Nation because of their efforts.

Women's Equality Day events

173d Airborne Brigade Combat Team
Equal Opportunity office

Join us at 6:30 a.m. for a 5km race. We start and finish at 173d Airborne Brigade Combat Team headquarters, come cheer for your favorite runner!

Age groups are 17-29, 30-39, 40 and up. Pre-register at the post exchange Aug. 23 between 10:30 a.m. and noon.

The race is free and open to all Soldiers, spouses and Caserma Ederle employees. Recognition will be given to the

Fees may be charged for telephone consults

By Thomas Warner
Landstuhl Regional Medical Center
Public Affairs Office

Officials at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center say telephone consultations with doctors are now being coded for billing. The charges are expected to be well under \$100 and usually in the range of \$45 to \$65, depending on what level of intricacy is involved with the call.

"The CHAMPUS maximum allowable charges (CMAC) set the price range, and there are three different levels of calls which are being considered for billing," Maj. James Hansmann, Chief of LRMC's Patient Accountability Branch said. "The potential charges will affect all pay patients excluding active duty and retirees or dependents not covered under another health plan."

Patients who speak with doctors over the telephone will not always be billed, but the longevity of the conversation and subject matter of said call will be the final determinant.

The new charges will be coded on patients' bills beginning with the numbers 99371, 99372 or 99373. Any of these charges which appear on billing statements will only

be incurred when doctors initiate the contact.

"This will involve situations when doctors made contact by telephone with a patient, and only privileged providers will be able to bill," said Hansmann. "The person who initiates the call must be a doctor, a physician's assistant or a nurse practitioner. And this is not to say that every time a patient talks with his or her doctor on the phone, there will be a bill."

"TRICARE did not do this in the past," said Tanja Jagusch, chief of billing in LRMC's Patient Administration office. "Sometimes it takes a lot of time for doctors to finally reach patients and in that time, they are taken away from seeing other patients."

Patients who get simple instructions on appointment times or prescription refills will not be charged any new fees. The charges would come into place if there is actual advice or consultation information discussed regarding a patient's condition.

More information about the potential charges for phone consultations with doctors can be found on the Internet at <https://tricare.osd.mil/ocfo/mcfs/ubo/index.cfm> or contact a medical practitioner.



Historic photo from the Library of Congress Prints and Photographic division of women marching to secure the right to vote.

top three male and female runners.

At 10:30 a.m., there will be a Women's Equality Day presentation at the Ederle Theater.

The presentation will be followed by a cake-cutting ceremony at noon in the post exchange food court.

For more information contact Sgt. 1st Class Willie Selders, 173d Airborne Brigade Combat Team, Equal Opportunity advisor, at 634-6160.

Vicenza Health Clinic thanks San Bortolo staff for efforts



Spc. John Mendez (left), biomedical technician at U.S. Army Health Clinic, Vicenza, serves employees of San Bartolo Hospital in Vicenza at an Aug. 10 barbecue held at San Bortolo. Soldiers from the health clinic prepared the food to show appreciation to the hospital staff for all the help they provide to Soldiers and their families from Caserma Ederle. The hospital gives medical care that the installation clinic is unable to provide. (Photo by Sgt. David Hopkins, SETAF Public Affairs)

Community Action Council

This forum is to discuss issues affecting the community. If you have an issue you wish to submit, visit the USAG Vicenza Web site at www.usag.vicenza.army.mil and click on the Community Action Council link. This link provides you the opportunity to review issues that have been previously submitted and responded to by post agencies. There is also a form available for you to submit any new issue you would like addressed. If you have questions, call 634-5222 or 0444-71-5222 from off post.

The command encourages you to identify yourself when submitting a CAC issue in order to be able to answer your concern directly.

The command also reminds the community that CAC issues submitted containing vulgar, derogatory or inflammatory language will not be addressed.

Childcare is offered during the CAC at \$4 per hour, per child, for children ages 6 weeks old through kindergarten from 8:45-11:15 a.m. Preregistration is required. Children will be cared for in the Child Development Center, building 395. Children must be registered with Child and Youth Services Central Registration. Call 634-7219 or stop by their location in the Davis Family Readiness Center.

The next CAC will be Aug. 23 beginning at 10 a.m. in the Ederle Theatre. The CAC is now live on-air over AFN 106, "The Eagle."

Issue: I would like to thank the commissary and AAFES for their work toward providing customer service. AAFES has increased their hours and the commissary is open on holiday Mondays. Even most of the MWR facilities are open expanded hours, with some notable

suggestions, as listed below:

The Arts and Crafts Center is only open until 6 p.m. weekdays, which leaves little time to start projects, and they are closed Sundays and holidays, when most people have time to use the facility.

ITR is open Monday thru Friday until 6 p.m. but when I go there at lunch, there is no one there. And after work I have to pick up my kids.

The pool is open daily, but swim lessons are only offered in the morning, when I am working. And if I get there too late, I can't get my kids in anyway, because all the slots are full.

Most soldiers work until at least 4 p.m. and if their spouses work, it is usually until 5 p.m. Even stay-at-home parents have to wait until the working parent is home before they have time to do leisure activities.

Recommendations: Open the Arts and Crafts center from noon-8 p.m. daily and on Sundays. Offer Sunday classes to get more people interested.

Open ITR for a few hours on Saturday when people are out running errands.

Offer swim lessons on weekends and after work hours, if possible, in addition to the current schedule.

Response from Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation: Before addressing each program, we want to reiterate the Department of the Army's guidance: MWR Category B programs (such as the Art Center, ITR, and CYS) MUST break even – that is, these programs must generate enough sales from customers to pay their expenses.

MWR attempts to meet this goal and to meet the needs of the majority of the community. Sometimes this is difficult to do, and a business-based decision must be made. This is the case with all of the programs

mentioned in this CAC issue.

Arts and Crafts Center: In January of 2005, MWR changed the hours of operation, closing the facility on Sundays and opening on Tuesdays. This was done after researching Sunday sales and it was determined that it was not cost effective to operate on Sundays. The normal operating hours for the facility leave us closed on Mondays, allowing staff time to complete custom framing projects.

On other days, the hours are 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and staff members remain on site in order to complete daily paperwork after 6 p.m., this allows patrons to remain until 6:30 p.m., giving ample time to finish projects.

Thursdays are the only day of the week we open and close later than usual. However, the actual number of users on Thursdays is extremely low in the evening. Most Thursday users are gone by 6:30 p.m.

During the month of June five Saturday classes were canceled for lack of registrants.

We plan to test the hours of noon – 8 p.m. Oct. 1 for a period of one month. We will re-examine this procedure at the end of October to determine the hours of operation.

Information, Tours and Registration: Current operating hours for ITR are Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., giving customer opportunities to register for upcoming tours.

Two staff are scheduled to work daily. Sometimes staff are working in areas not seen by customers. We have placed a bell at the front desk so staff can come to front to assist customers when the bell is rung.

Although ITR does schedule tours during the business week, the majority of tours take place on weekends.

As a test, ITR opened on Saturdays, but experienced little-to-no visitors and found the cost of labor was high in comparison to sales

generated. The ITR does post fliers for upcoming events outside of the building for customers to take home. In addition ITR has expanded their service and are now able to register customers for trips by phone and email. We have also established an answering machine for weekend calls, which are returned Monday morning.

Therefore, ITR will maintain its current hours of operation.

Child and Youth Services Swimming lessons: CYS SKIES Unlimited has implemented a new registration process for swim lessons, and doubled the number of available spaces by adding more classes.

We scheduled classes in the morning when the pool can be used exclusively for swim lessons. This atmosphere is conducive to learning and offers an added measure of safety.

During the summer, the pool maintains a high swimmer load throughout the daily operating hours. With high numbers of swimmers, it is not possible to offer children's lessons effectively and safely in the afternoons.

Working parents have the option to enroll their children in the SAS Summer Camp or the CDC Panther Program. SKIES Unlimited has partnered with these programs and has arranged for children to be walked by CYS staff to the pool for swim lessons.

Parents interested registering their child should pick up a registration packet at the post pool or at CYS Central Registration in the Davis Family Readiness Center.

The CAC will be hosted at the Ederle Theater on Aug. 23 at 10 a.m.

Human Resources week can help develop career plans

By Cindy Pierson
Equal Employment Opportunity manager

“Pack Your Own Chute” is the theme for Human Resources Week held Wednes day-Friday in the post chapel. The event is sponsored by the Equal Employment Opportunity office and the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center-Vicenza.

The event offers briefings designed to help employees to develop to their highest employment potential.

Sessions will also educate family members and Soldiers interested in a career with the Federal government with presentations on employment readiness, job interviewing and the recruitment and selection process.

“Pack Your Own Chute” is geared to motivating participants to take control of their own career growth by making themselves more competitive in today’s job market.

To do this, they must establish career goals, be properly trained and be aware of some of the many career programs offered by the Army, such as the Career Management Program and the USAG Vicenza’s Installation Mentorship Program.

Other enrichment strategies that help us to get on the fast career track

are mentoring and discussions with individuals who have moved up the career ladder and are willing to share their experiences on how they got there.

“Pack Your Own Chute” can be the starting point for individuals who are in dead-end positions or need assistance in focusing on a structured career plan.

To reserve a seat, or for more information, call the EEO Office at 634-7976 or 634-7804.

Human Resources Week events

Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. -noon:
- Recruitment/Selection Process
- Resume Writing

Wednesday, 2-4 p.m.:
- Employment Readiness
- How to Ace the Interview
- Effective Interviewing: The

Right Questions
Thursday, 9:30-11:30 a.m.:
- Career Management Program
- Installation Mentorship Program

Thursday, 2-4 p.m.:
- The National Security Personnel System

Friday, 9:30-11:30 a.m.:
- Preparing for Leadership Roles

To reserve a seat, e-mail cynthia.pierson@setaf.army.mil, or call 634-7976 or 634-7084.

The Outlook

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SETAF Commander

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Class teaches proper procedures for handling public food



Sgt. Ashley Webb, USAG Vicenza Preventive Medicine office, teaches the monthly Food Handler's class to community members. The class is required for anyone who serves food to the public. This includes food service workers in the food court, community members who work at a booth during a special event, like July 4th, and personnel who work as a childcare provider. For details on the class, contact Preventive Medicine at 634-6138 or 8010.

Story and photo by Jasmine Perry
Summer Hire
USAG Vicenza Public Affairs

Handling food for the public is not a task taken lightly by the staff of USAG Vicenza Preventive Medicine section.

"All post food establishment employees must attend the basic food handler's class (Popeye's employees, Dining facility, etc.)," said Sgt. Ashley Webb, USAG Vicenza Preventive Medicine. "This includes individuals who may need the class to work a special event, such as 4th of July celebration, a fundraiser, or a food service event that's open to the community."

"Also, personnel who work for Caserma Ederle childcare facilities are required to attend, along with community members who are Family Child Care providers. If there is a group of 10 or more people who need the class we can schedule a class just for them, as well," she said.

"I work at the Child Development Center as a cook. This is my third time here and it's a pretty good program," said Brandi Martwick. "Every time I take the class, the information is basically the same, but sometimes there is new information, so this class really helps me. She [Webb] also inspects us and so we know what is expected."

"The class helps people learn how to serve food safely to the public, and of course,

it's a requirement based on Army Food Sanitation regulations," said Webb.

Food handler's class is held at the U.S. Army Health Clinic-Vicenza's classroom 26. The course began in October 2004 and is now taught once a month, on the second Thursday of each month.

This class covers every aspect of serving safe food, to include safety issues such as cleaning and sanitizing equipment, cooking temperatures and more. After learning about all the safety issues, the participants take a test and if they pass, the food service facility they will work for is credited with training for that individual, according to Webb.

"After the test, if they pass they get a basic food handler's card that is good for three months. Starting Aug. 3, each food service facility who sends food handling personnel to the training will also get a certificate specifically for that facility with the names of the individuals from that facility who attended the class, according to Webb.

"I like the class because of the teacher, Sergeant Webb," said Isabella Pickend, who works at Popeyes. "This class freshens up our knowledge and reminds us of the cleaning and safety information that we need to know."

You don't have to work in a food facility, or childcare facility to attend, anyone who's interested and would like to attend you can contact Webb at 634-6138 or e-mail her at Ashley.Johnson@vcz.amedd.army.mil.

Children learn about God through play at *Fiesta*

Story and photos by Laura Kreider
Outlook Staff

Learning while playing together has been the experience for 135 children in the community who participated in 'Fiesta,' this year's Vacation Bible School held at the post chapel Aug. 7-11.

With help from almost 70 volunteers, the children, who ranged from kindergarten to sixth grade, rotated through several stations that included various activities designed for each age group.

"While at Fiesta, children experience Bible stories in powerful, life-changing ways," explained Jennifer McNeese, who co-directed this year's VBS with Toni Samuel.

Children started each day at 8:30 a.m., after forming small groups called 'Fiesta Crews.'

After singing Bible songs together and doing fun motions to introduce the concept of that day's theme, the children visited five different stations such as Maraca Munchies, Hot Bible Adventures, Drive-in Theater, Chadder's Desert, and Cactus Crafts, before meeting again for the Fiesta Finale, which concluded each day's activity.

"This week has been such a great experience for me," said one of the crew leaders, Sibilla Sasha, 13.

"Dealing with preschoolers wasn't as easy as I thought, but in the end we had a great time. Even the kids who were shy on the first day were dancing and making friends!! I recommend it to all the kids in the community."

The children really enjoyed the activities offered and the interaction with other people.

"I've really liked Vacation Bible School," said 8-year-old Jackson McCarty, one member of the 24 crews that participated in the event.

"My favorite parts of the day are Chadder's Desert, Drive-In Theater and Hot Bible Adventures. I liked them because of the nice people and ideas for games and experiments to try at home," he said.

"I look forward to going to VBS. I like the singing because the kids are bouncy. We got to watch a quick movie," explained 7-year-old Tyler Casale, a member of another crew.

As part of the program, children also worked on 'Operation Kid-to-Kid,' an outreach international mission project focused on meeting the needs of children across the world.

McNeese explained that about 35 blankets were put together and 126 Bible story books will be sent to some children who live in mountainous Latin American cities.

By partnering with the International Bible Society, children participating in Fiesta have the chance to "blanket" Latin American cities where children live in poverty, most of the time in slums, sifting through the garbage dump for food.



Crew leader and members of her 'crew' complete a blanket that will be sent to children in Latin American cities as part of 'Operation Kid-to-Kid,' an outreach international mission project focused on meeting the needs of children across the world. Below: One of the almost 70 Vacation Bible School volunteers, helps one of the preschoolers' crew at a station located near the chapel. It was Casale's first year as a VBS volunteer. "The children try to learn the concept of following one path, following in the footsteps of Jesus" she said.



Chadder's Desert Drive-in Theater leader invites children to participate in the activities before meeting in the chapel with the other crews for the Fiesta Finale, the last activity of each day that included singing Bible songs together and doing fun motions.



Welcome home party thanks Soldiers, families

After a year in Iraq and driving three million miles without any serious incidents, the 25 Soldiers of the 3d Platoon, 68th Transportation Company arrived at Caserma Ederle Aug. 9. A welcome bash was held at Club Veneto Aug. 12 with activities for the families and to thank the troops for their hard work. Below: Jona (left), 12 and Alyssa Aldan, 10, create a welcome home card for their dad, Staff Sgt. John Aldan, a member of the 68th Trans Co. At right: Community members enjoy making cards and crafts during the welcome home party. Bottom right: SETAF Commander Maj. Gen. Frank G. Helmick, Carmelita Hernandez and her husband, Sgt. Hazael Hernandez, pose for a picture after Carmelita received the Certificate of Achievement for her exceptional volunteer service as a Family Readiness Group Leader with the 3-68th Transportation Company. (Photos by Laura Kreider, Outlook staff)



Yoga helps children, parents stretch more than just muscles

Story and photos by Jasmine Perry
Summer Hire
USAG Vicenza Public Affairs

Did you know yoga is an ancient Indian practice? The exercises are used to prepare the body for meditation, according to Lacy Wolff, SKIES Unlimited yoga teacher.

Yoga can be for anyone, but the way children may practice Yoga can be different from how adult classes are taught, said Wolff. Adult classes are quiet, use meditation and concentration exercises.

To sum it all up they all do different exercises to work on the same parts of the body, she continued.

For example, children do active, creative

and fun poses to keep them energetic, entertained, and fit.

"I teach animal movements to get the children active and more flexible," said Wolff. "We also work on coordination, body awareness, and motor skills. The class gets children use to being around other children their own age."

"Yoga is fun and I made friends," said 3-year-old Ava Richarte. "I like to be the elephant."

While yoga provides an atmosphere to be creative and socialize, it also works your strength, muscular strength, flexibility, and endurance, said Wolff.

"Yoga is something I like to do and is fun to do. I like pretend to be an animal, and I like



Children and parents work on stretching moves during a Yoga for Kids class.



to make friends," said 3-year-old Alexa-Skye Simon.

"I have been teaching yoga for three years, but this is my first year teaching

children and it's a blast," said Wolff

The Yoga for Kids class will be held Tuesdays, Sept. 19-Oct. 24, from 10-10:45 a.m. at the Villaggio Dance Studio. Classes are open for children ages 3 to 5 years.

For more information about the class, contact Chris Wolff, SKIES director, at 634-8051, or 634-7219 or e-mail chris.wolff@setaf.army.mil. Students must be registered with Child and Youth Services to participate.

For more information about other classes and programs offered by SKIES, e-mail Skies@vicenzamwr.com.

A mother and daughter perform stretching exercises during the Yoga for Kids class. Yoga for Kids is a program of SKIES (Schools of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration and Skills) and is held at the Villaggio Youth Center. For more information, call Chris Wolff, SKIES director, at 634-8051.

Vicenza Elementary School welcomes back students, parents

From Martha Parsons

Vicenza Elementary School Principal

Dear Vicenza Elementary School parents and students: It is my pleasure to welcome you to Vicenza Elementary School and school year 2006-2007. We look forward to a very challenging and rewarding year for each student.

In these times of transition, we are here to support children and their families. We have two counselors within the school, and are fortunate to have community counselors available to work with families. Should you have concerns, please use these resources.

We have found that children flourish in routines; therefore, we always strive to keep schedules and activities as normal as possible.

Please make sure that you have updated emergency contacts and phone numbers



Martha Parsons

Welcome back Vicenza Middle, High School students, parents

From Kathleen Reiss

Vicenza Middle and High School Principal

Dear Students,

On behalf of the Vicenza Middle and High School staff, I welcome all new and returning students to what promises to be an exciting and rewarding school year!

A new school year presents opportunities for various beginnings – new classes, new faces, new courses, and new materials.

We hope that each of you has had a summer with plenty of fun distractions from schoolwork and are now looking forward with enthusiasm to the new school year.

I encourage all of you to take your schoolwork seriously and to get very involved in extra-curricular activities.

A goal of our dedicated staff is to provide opportunities for you to excel in academics, fine arts, and athletics. We will maintain a focus on academics while guiding you to develop skills, attitudes, and values that will help to ensure your success. Each of you has the potential to soar above expectations!

We will continue our focus on implementing activities that will give middle school students their own identity.

High school students have already spoken to me about what we need to do to make some improvements. Be prepared to give the



with both the teacher and the office.

Teachers return Wednesday to prepare themselves and their classrooms to meet students in grades 1-6 Monday.

Kindergarten classes begin Sept. 5. All class lists will be posted in the Army Post Office and the commissary after 4 p.m. Friday.

We will be selecting new school goals this year, based on school data.

The School Improvement Process is a key component of school life, so please consider serving on a School Improvement Team.

I am pleased to announce the following as those elected to serve on the School Advisory Council: Parents-Chiara Oswald, Antoinette Samuel, and Christopher Menia. Teachers - Melissa Driscoll, Cynthia Murr, and Angela Hartwig. We will be looking for one each additional parent and teacher member. Parents are invited to attend SAC meetings.

We welcome all our new teachers, families and students, and are also pleased to have three student teachers from the University of Phoenix. We appreciate the command's support to these student teachers.

The Vicenza Elementary School Open House will be held at 5 p.m. Sept. 6 – specifics will be published soon. Parents may meet all our teachers at that time.

Together, we can provide the best learning environment for your children. We encourage parent involvement and really do appreciate your suggestions and questions.

Best wishes for a great school year!



Kathleen Reiss

Middle School and High School Student Councils and your class officers some ideas that will make Vicenza Middle/High School the very best DoDDS middle/high school.

We also welcome parent and community volunteers in our school. Students, encourage your parents to become positive, active members of our school community.

We wish you a very exhilarating and successful school year. Let's make school year 2006-07 the best one ever!

Welcome back Livorno students

From Cathy Magni

Livorno Unit School Principal

Welcome back to Livorno American Unit School students and parents. The staff and administration welcomes you as partners in

providing the very best education for our children.

We believe that our community school provides a positive and productive environment where students, parents, and teachers work together to provide optimum educational opportunities for all students.

We continually strive to develop an atmosphere that provides acceptance, respect, and trust. We look forward to your assistance in this endeavor.

All students are challenged to use the unique opportunities provided at Livorno American Unit School to develop their potential and to grow as individuals through the close relationships available with teachers and community members throughout the Darby community.

We encourage each parent to take an active role in the school and request that you visit, volunteer or provide constructive feedback on an ongoing basis throughout the school year as we work to refine educational services, to provide success for all students.

We hope you will take every opportunity to visit and share with us your expertise for continued educational improvement. We want all students to know that the time spent in school is a significant part of the "Best Years of Your Life."

As you know, everyone has to work to be successful in our society. All mothers and fathers have jobs and responsibilities. Attaining an education is a student's job, his or her place of work is school. It is therefore the student's opportunity and responsibility to work hard and do as well as they can in

school.

Students who work well at school make their parents happy; make their teachers happy; and most important of all, they make themselves happy by providing a strong foundation for a successful life. You need to actively work to do your best to stay involved and to make your life as full and as rich as possible.

Research shows that students who exhibit a positive outlook, exercise the best behavior, and develop good work habits not only make their parents and teachers proud but they are successful in attaining their goals in life.

It has been the tradition of LAHS students to work hard to be successful, to respect all members of our community, and encourage their classmates to do the same.

It should further be the goal of every student to create within the halls and classrooms of the school an environment that fosters the most positive educational experience for all students at all times.

By working hard to carrying on these traditions you will also be able to look back on your days at Livorno Unit School as "The Best Years of Your Life."



Cathy Magni

Vicenza, Livorno School policies

Cellular telephones

Cellular telephones must remain in the "silent" or "off" position throughout the school day. Only during lunch periods are students allowed to place or receive calls, and then only while off campus.

If a cellular telephone rings or vibrates during a class, it may be confiscated by the teacher and returned only to the sponsor or parent. Students observed playing games, sending messages, or using any function of a cellular telephone during the school day will also have their phones confiscated.

The school offices are available to assist with any emergency that may arise during the school day and to help parents contact their children. School office telephones are for official school business.

Smoking

In support of guidance on student smoking provided in the DoDEA Administrator's Guide, the following will be observed in DoDDS-Europe:

Students are prohibited from possessing or using tobacco products during the school day on or off school property, on school-owned and operated buses or on chartered buses, or when participating in school-sponsored or school-supervised activities on or off campus. Violation of this policy will result in disciplinary action/consequence to be determined by the school which may include referral to counseling or appropriate authority for any student found to be smoking during the school day whether on or off campus. There are

no designated smoking areas defined or condoned by DoDDS-E schools

Closing of school, early dismissal and emergency evacuations

In the event of early dismissal from school, the command will be notified. The radio and television station will be immediately notified and the school bus system will be activated and ready to depart the school(s) within 60 minutes. Parents are advised to establish a procedure with their children of what they are to do in such an emergency. Situations, which may require closing of school, are:

- Inclement weather
- An alert
- Health epidemic
- Bomb or terrorist threat
- Facility deficiencies which would endanger health or safety of students or school personnel

If you wish your child to be dismissed from school early, please notify the teacher in writing. In the note indicate when you will come to take your child, or if you aren't coming, indicate in the note who will be picking them up.

If you are requesting that your child take a bus different than his/her assigned bus (see school bus pass) you need to notify the teacher and the school bus office in writing (to ensure space is available on the school bus). When you come to pick up your child from school, please report to the classroom teacher or office first.

Important School Numbers

Vicenza Elementary School numbers:
Main office: 634-7710 or 7579
Nurse's office: 634-7584

Vicenza Middle/High School numbers:
Main office: 634-7656 or 7072
School Bus office: 634-8366 or 8132
For all Vicenza numbers above, if calling from off post, replace 634 with 0444-71.

Livorno Unit School numbers:

Livorno High School main office:
633-7573 or 7367

Livorno Elementary School main office:
633-7588 or 7058

For all Livorno numbers above, if calling from off post, replace 633 with 050-54.



Back to School Briefs

School/Sport physicals

The Vicenza Health Clinic is currently scheduling school physicals during normal business hours, and on Thursday evenings from 5-8 p.m.

Schedule appointments now at: 634-7484, from off post at 0444-71-7484.

School bus photos

Some newly preregistered Kindergarten students are missing digital photographs and DoDDS wants all students to have bus pass photographs.

If you're unsure about your children(s) bus pass photos, parents or guardians should call the DoDDS Student Transportation office at 634-8132 or 8366, off post at 0444-71-8131 or 8366, or send an e-mail message to Donald.Evans@eu.dodea.edu, or to Sean.Richardson@eu.dodea.edu.

Summer office hours are 7:30 a.m.-noon, and 12:30-4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday.

Free Preschool

Sure Start is accepting applications at Vicenza Elementary School. The Sure Start Preschool Program, modeled after Head Start in the United States. It is a full day, high quality preschool for 4-year-olds. It

targets children who may potentially not being ready for kindergarten the following year.

The program is primarily designed for children of sponsors rank E4 and below, but anyone is welcome to fill out an application.

There is a mandatory parent education component, which includes scheduled home visits, quarterly parent meetings and participation in the classroom.

Applications are being accepted now for this school year, and children must be age four by Oct. 31 to apply.

If you are the parent of a 4-year-old or a 3-year-old who will be 4 by Oct. 31, don't miss out on this great preschool opportunity.

Visit the VES office for an application or call 634-7579 for more information about Sure Start.

Vicenza High School volunteering

To volunteer at Vicenza High School as an assistant to coaches or an aide in the classroom or in the office, an application packet must be completed and turned in to the coach, teacher, or athletic director.

It will then be forwarded to the School Officer for follow-up. Volunteers may not work with students until the required

investigations are completed, which can take two to three weeks.

VHS is also accepting applications for paid substitute teaching positions. For details, contact Clitta Frigo, VHS office, at 634-7656 or 7072.

VHS Fall Cheerleading

A meeting for youth interested in fall cheerleading will be held Aug. 28.

The meeting will begin promptly at 3 p.m. in Mrs. Mansfield's classroom (Hut G). The meeting will take about 30 minutes.

All high school students interested in fall cheerleading should attend the meeting.

Fall cheerleading tryout practices will be held Aug. 29-Sept. 1. Practices will begin promptly at 3:20 p.m. and end at 5:30 p.m. each day.

Fall cheerleading tryouts will be held Sept. 2.

Educate II Elevate

Where do youth turn to talk about issues that are important to them? Educate II Elevate is a leadership forum developed by Family Advocacy for the teens of Caserma Ederle in grades 9-12 to discuss the topics that are most important to them.

Some of the topics that are

explored include building healthier self-esteem, substance abuse, developing leadership skills, healthy dating, stress and anger management, and what teens need to know about college, independent living, and money management.

The Educate II Elevate groups will launch their new session in October. Youth and/or parents interested in enrolling their youth can sign up for the meetings by contacting Tammy Wilbur-Hoistad at 634-7314 or 7500.

Parents are welcome to review the material and to contact Wilbur-Hoistad for more details.

Youth do not have to attend all the meetings but are encouraged to participate in as many as possible.

Club Beyond begins new season

Middle School Club Beyond begins Sept. 7 from 3:30-5 p.m. and will meet every Thursday after that.

Club has moved to the Caserma Ederle Chapel so come on down. All VHS students grades 7-8 are welcome!

The high school leadership program kicks off Sept. 18 and will go from 5:30-7:30 p.m. and includes supper.

The leadership program is open

to all VHS students in grades 10-12.

The leadership program involves a minimum of 120 hours of community service, adult mentors, and special trips. To learn more, be at the post chapel Sept. 18.

Club Beyond serves all the teens and the families of the Camp Ederle community. For more information, contact either Gil Carter or Jocelyn Cary at 348-821-3328, or 634-6546 or vicecb@yahoo.com.

Girl Scout leaders sought

The Girl Scouts of Vicenza need leaders, assistant leaders, and co-leaders for all age groups for the 2006-2007 Girl Scout year.

If you like working with girls and are willing to help, please call Nancy at 349-520-9980.

Registration for girls will be held in September when school starts and after leaders are trained.

Cub Scouts

Cub Scout Pack 295 meets in Vicenza, Italy, and is part of the Boy Scouts of America.

For information on registering you son for scouting, contact Darren Buss, Cub master, at (349) 246-7274, or via e-mail at: Pack295.Cubmaster@yahoo.com.

From the Schools Liaison Officer

By Norie McCall
Schools Liaison Officer

The Schools Liaison Officer is a link between commanders, schools, and the community.

Among the duties of the SLO is to advise the command on education issues, facilitate military resource assistance to the schools, and provide information and referral regarding education issues.

For details on the programs below, contact Norie McCall, SLO, at 634-5998, from off post at 0444-71-5998, or via e-mail at norie.mccall@setaf.army.mil.

Free and Reduced School Lunch Program

Applications are now being accepted for School year 2006/2007 Free and Reduced Lunch Program. This program offers free or reduced cost lunches to eligible families, based on family size and income.

To apply, pick up an application from the schools, CYS Central Registration Office, located in Davis Family Readiness Center or the Schools Liaison Office, also located in DFRC, office 42.

Submit the completed application to the School Liaison Officer in DFRC, or call the SLO at 634-5998 if you have questions.

Bright Eyes program

The Bright Eyes Program provides reimbursement for eyeglasses to children who are currently enrolled or qualify to participate in the Free School Lunch Program.

For those children who need eyeglasses, once eligibility has been verified, parents will be issued a check for \$100 to defray the cost of eyeglasses. The check will be issued upon receipt of proof of purchase.

Bright Eyes is supported by funds generated by the Vicenza Military Spouses and Civilians Club through their

fund raising activities. All information is confidential.

Student 2 Student program

Believing that transitioning does not have to be difficult, "just different," S2S or Student-2-Student is a unique student-led, school-managed program that confronts the challenges of transition and provides relevant training that gives students the best possible transition experience.

For incoming students, the team provides a forum for them to feel welcome, comfortable, included and accepted into their new school community.

S2S is a powerful program designed to help change a transitioning student's focal point from what the student has lost – to what the student will gain through the relocation.

S2S offers – from a peer viewpoint – valued information, friendship and assistance in areas that matter most to transitioning students.

For more information about the S2S program, contact the Vicenza High School Counselor at 634-7656 or the Schools Liaison Officer at 634-5998.

Interested in Home Schooling?

Parents of command-sponsored children ages 6-18 who do not attend a Department of Defense Dependents School are required to complete the one-page Parental Choice Form AE 352-1, which is available from the Schools Liaison Officer, located in Davis Family Readiness Center, bldg 109, room 42.

The form should be completed within 30 days of arriving at a new duty station or withdrawing a child from DODDS.

Call the SLO at 634-5998 for details and to add your contact information to the Home Schooling support group.

DoDDS-Europe confirms eligibility changes in effect for this school year

DoDDS-Europe Public Affairs
Press Release

The Department of Defense Education Activity announced the cancellation Aug. 11 of DoD Regulation 1342.13 and its replacement by a DoDEA Regulation of the same number, clearing the way for the official adaptation of changes to eligibility codes that will greatly expand access to its schools for the children of DoD contractors and civilian employees across Europe.

Under the new guidelines, children of DoD contractors will be eligible to attend DoDDS-Europe schools on a space-guaranteed, tuition-paying basis.

The children of full-time, locally hired NAF and AF employees, who are U.S. citizens or U.S. nationals, will be eligible to attend DoDDS-E schools on a space-required, tuition-free basis.

The expanded classification codes include the children of full-time local hires who work for the U.S. government in Europe without housing and or transportation agreements.

The policy change allows DoDDS-Europe schools to expand support to the children of civilians whose contributions have grown increasingly critical to the nation's military missions. The cancellation of the DoD Regulation and its replacement with DoDEA Regulation 1342.13 is the result of a two-year process of negotiation for the expansion of eligibility by the Dependents Education Council.

The DEC is a body of senior military leaders who advocate for educational services for military dependents in

conjunction with DoDDS-E and DoDEA officials.

DoDEA Regulation 1342.13 is on the Web at www.eu.dodea.edu/enroll.htm.

DoDDS-E officials began encouraging parents whose children would become eligible under the new policy to pre-register them for the 2006-2007 school year beginning this past spring.

Officials reiterated their call for parents who have not yet done so to register their children either online or at their local school for the term which begins Monday.

The sponsors of children affected by the eligibility change must be U.S. citizens or U.S. nationals who are full-time employees.

Contractors whose children will qualify under the change must make available copies of either the Logistical Support Section of the contract that authorizes dependent education on a tuition-paying basis, the Technical Expert Accreditation Status awarded to the sponsor, the DD-1172-2 Common Access Identification Card Application, or the contractor's or contractor's spouse's ID cards to DoDDS-E staff at the time of enrollment.

Employment and dependency status verification must be confirmed at the start of every school year for both AF and NAF civilians by their servicing Civilian Personnel/ Human Resource Office to qualify.

Parents should consult the registrar at their community school for guidance in determining their eligibility.

Enrollment, eligibility and tuition related inquiries can also be made via e-mail to DoDDS-E.Enrollment@eu.dodea.edu.

Additional immunizations required for 2006-07 school year

In coordination with military medical commands, DoDDS-E has added three required inoculations for students attending its schools in the 2006-2007 school year. The three are: Meningococcal Conjugate Vaccine (MCV4); Tetanus and Diphtheria Toxoids and Acellular Pertussis Vaccine (TDAP – adolescent preparation); and Hepatitis A.

The updated version of the immunizations form is available on the

DODEA Web site at www.dodea.edu/communities/medical.htm. Parents should bear in mind that the additional immunizations are age-specific and not all students will require all of the additional vaccines. These are the minimum requirements. Additional requirements may be determined by the military medical commands based upon needs in specific locations. Parents can contact their child's school nurse for information and guidance.

School Calendar for 2006-2007

Vicenza Elementary, Middle and High School Calendars

Aug. 28 - School begins for 1-12 grades
Sept. 4 - Labor Day - Federal Holiday
Sept. 5 - First day of Kindergarten
Sept. 6 - Vicenza Elementary School Open House
Sept. 7- Vicenza Middle, High School Open House
Sept. 18 - First day for Sure Start students
Oct. 6 - No school for students (Staff development day)
Oct. 9 - Columbus day - Federal Holiday
Oct. 30 - No School for students (Staff development day)
Nov. 2 - End of first quarter
Nov. 3 - No school for students (Teacher work day)
Nov. 6 - Beginning Second quarter
Nov. 10 - Veterans Day - Federal Holiday
Nov. 16 - VES parent/teacher conferences (No school for VES students)
Nov. 17 - VHS Parent/teacher conferences (No school for VHS students)
Nov. 23 - Thanksgiving- Federal Holiday
Nov. 24 - Thanksgiving- Federal recess day
Dec. 25 - Beginning winter recess
2007
Jan. 8- Instruction resumes
Jan. 15- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day - Federal Holiday
Jan. 25- End of 2nd quarter and 1st semester
Jan. 26- No school for students (Teacher work day)
Jan. 29- Beginning 3rd quarter and 2nd semester
Feb. 16- No school for students (Staff development day)
Feb. 19- President's day - Federal holiday
April 5- End of third quarter
April 6- No school for students (Teacher work day)
April 9-13 - Spring recess
April 19 and 20 - No School for students
(Portfolio conferences and registration for School year 2007-08)
April 16 - Instruction resumes
May 28 - Memorial day- federal holiday
June 14 - School ends

Livorno Unit Schools Calendar

Aug. 28 - First Day of School for Grades 1-12
Sept. 4 - Labor Day-Federal Holiday
Sept. 5 - First Day of School for PSCD/Kindergarten
Sept. 7 - Open House/PTSO Chili Supper-4 p.m. Elementary School gym
Sept. 19 - Cafe Open for Parents/Students
Sept. 22 - Inservice Day-Early Release for Students
Elementary School-11 a.m., High School -11:15 a.m.
Oct. 3 - Cafe Open
Oct. 6 - *Inservice Day-Early Release for Students*
Elementary School-11 a.m., High School -11:15 a.m.
Oct. 9 - Columbus Day-Federal Holiday
Oct. 17 - Cafe Open
Nov. 3 - No school for students (Teacher Work Day)
Nov. 7 - Cafe Open
Nov. 10 - *Inservice Day-Early Release for Students*
Elementary School-11 a.m., High School -11:15 a.m.
Nov. 11 - Veteran's Day-Federal Holiday
Nov. 16 - ES Parent/Teacher Conferences-No School for ES only
Nov. 17 - ES/HS Parent/Teacher Conferences-No School
Nov. 21 - Cafe Open, PTSO Meeting-3:30
Nov. 23-24 - Thanksgiving-No School
Dec. 12 - Cafe Open
Dec. 25 - Jan. 5 January-Winter Recess
2007
Jan. 8 - Instruction Resumes
Jan. 9 - Cafe Open
Jan. 12 - *Inservice Day-Early Release for Students*
Elementary School-11 a.m., High School -11:15 a.m.
Jan. 15 - Martin Luther King Day-Federal Holiday
Jan. 23 - Cafe Open
Jan. 26 - No School (Teacher Work Day)
Feb. 6 - Cafe Open
Feb.16 - *Inservice Day-Early Release for Students*
Elementary School-11 a.m., High School -11:15 a.m.
Feb.19 - President's Day-Federal Holiday
Feb. 20 - Cafe Open
March 6 - Cafe Open
March 20 - Cafe Open
March 23 - *Inservice Day-Early Release for Students*
Elementary School-11 a.m., High School -11:15 a.m.
Apr. 3 - Cafe Open
Apr. 6 - No School (Teacher Work Day)
Apr. 9-13 - Spring Recess
Apr. 17 - Cafe Open
Apr. 19 - ES Parent/Teacher Conferences-No School for ES Only
Apr. 20 - ES/HS Parent/Teacher Conferences-No School for ES/HS
May 1 - Cafe Open
May 25 - *Inservice Day-Early Release for Students*
Elementary School-11 a.m., High School -11:15 a.m.
May 28 - Memorial Day-Federal Holiday
May 29 - Cafe Open
June 8 - Senior Awards Assembly/Graduation 1600
June 12 - Last Day of School

School bus transportation information

Vicenza Student Transportation Office Press Release

The Vicenza Student Transportation Office wants to ensure that your children are safely and efficiently transported to and from their school each day.

Buses used to transport children to Department of Defense Dependents Schools are not the traditional, yellow vehicles familiar to most American children. Instead, they are European-style coaches, like those used for tourist travel, but marked with the international school bus sign as identification.

In Europe, the traffic environment and some of its rules are not the same as those in the States. The single-most important difference is that **in Europe approaching and following traffic are not required to stop for loading or unloading school buses.**

Riders of DoDDS school buses are not allowed to cross the street in front of buses. They must wait at the curb until the bus has departed. Then, after checking for oncoming traffic, cross when it is safe.

American children must be taught this lifesaving safety rule: **Never cross the street in front or behind the bus.**

To ensure only authorized passengers board the buses, students are required to have a bus pass that has a photo. They must show to the driver when boarding their bus. **Registration for school bus transportation is required.**

First, children must be enrolled in school. Next, parents should visit the community school bus office to:

- Register for transportation.
- Take bus pass photo.
- Receive information about routes, stops and schedules.
- Receive a briefing on behavior and discipline standards.

School bus passes are being published now and parents can expect them in their CMR mailbox one week before school begins. Parents who did not receive their child(ren)'s bus pass, are asked to come to the School Bus office for more information.

For additional information, stop by the Vicenza School Bus Office, located in Building 307, next to the Superintendent's Office, off Olson Avenue. It is the first office to the right after you walk past the post office toward the school, and before you see the school cafeteria. Look for the international school bus sign in the window. Parents may also call the office at 634-8132 or 8366; or off post at 0444-71-8132 or 8366.

As a reminder: Beginning Monday, the buses will unload students between approximately 7:55 - 8 a.m., and load students between 2:45 - 3 p.m. in the area behind the Golden Lion. Please be advised that this area will be restricted to any vehicular traffic during these periods for maximum student safety. **The speed limit for Olson Avenue in front of the schools is 10kph while school is in session.**

Passing a loading or unloading school bus on post or Villaggio is prohibited!

From the Command Safety Office

Passing a loading or unloading school bus is a condition for a potential tragedy and is also a violation of Army Regulations.

Army in Europe Regulation 190-1 prohibits vehicles from passing a loading or unloading school bus on government installations.

Buses will turn on their emergency flashers to indicate that they are loading or unloading. You are not allowed to pass a school bus during this time.

Buses that arrive at their pickup points early will not turn on their flashers until it is time to load.

Vehicles are allowed to pass a school bus if the flashers are not on.

However, you must be alert for children when passing a school bus as children will be in the area. The possibility of a child darting out from in front or behind a school bus is high.

While the loading and unloading of school busses may take a while – your patience is needed and mandated for the safety of children.

Managing your arrival and departure times from Villaggio during school bus pick-up and drop-offs can assist in eliminating the potential dangers as well as unwanted waiting.

Lion Shake 07



Oct. 17

On Tuesday, Oct. 17, the Vicenza military community will practice its emergency response procedures during the annual Lion Shake 07 antiterrorism exercise.

This exercise replicates a real emergency and will disrupt normal day-to-day operations.

Impacts to you could include:

- ❖ Gate closures on the installation and Villaggio
- ❖ Restricted vehicle and walking movement around the installation and surrounding areas: Caserma Ederle, Longare, Lerino, Torri and Villaggio
- ❖ Temporary closures of offices and service activities for all units and organizations on Caserma Ederle

If you are on the installation Oct. 17, you may end up participating in the exercise.

Exercise Lion Shake 07 is a valuable tool to help the community be better prepared to handle emergencies.

The command thanks all units, agencies and the Vicenza military community in advance for supporting this exercise.